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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Memorandum



THE CRISIS
USSR/CUBA

Information as of 0600
19 November 1962

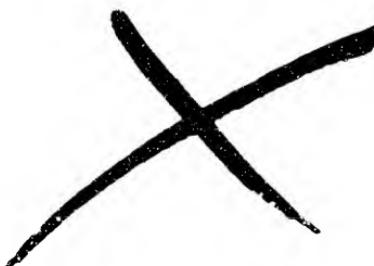
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Prague and Havana had frequently been cancelled due to the poor condition of the Britannias now in service. Cuban authorities are seeking authorization for overflight of West Germany and Belgium and for technical stopovers in Ireland and Iceland between 19 and 25 November.

SOVIET POSITION



The public quarrel between Moscow and Peiping over Khrushchev's handling of the Cuban crisis continued with major articles in Pravda and People's Daily on 18 November. Boris Ponomarev, a secretary of the Soviet party central committee, replied to direct Albanian and indirect Chinese charges of Soviet appeasement by asserting that the Albanians had "openly taken a course of disrupting peaceful coexistence and pushing humanity to a thermonuclear war." Peiping charged that the claim that the withdrawal of Soviet missiles from Cuba had saved the peace is "pure nonsense." A People's Daily editorial said "Tito and his like" had tried to force Cuba to "accept terms which impair its rights and sovereignty so as to meet the insatiable aggressive demands of US imperialism."